

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MARCUS LUCAS ON HIS SELECTION TO THE 2010 U.S. ARMY ALL-AMERICAN BOWL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to congratulate Liberty High School senior Marcus Lucas on his selection to play in the 2010 U.S. Army All-American Bowl. The selection is a reflection of his hard work and dedication throughout his career as a Blue Jay.

Marcus is joining elite company. NFL players Adrian Peterson, Reggie Bush, Vernon Davis and Derrick Johnson are all alumni of the All-American Bowl. I join the entire Liberty community in expressing how very proud we are of this young man and wish him the best in both the upcoming game and as he heads to the University of Missouri in the fall of 2010.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you join with me in commending Marcus Lucas on his selection to the 2010 U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

HONORING LENAPE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER TEAM

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to report that the tradition of soccer excellence continues at a high school in the Third District of New Jersey. For the third year in a row, the Lenape High School Girls Varsity Soccer team has captured the NJSIAA State Group 4 Championship. I am also pleased to note that Lenape finished their season with an outstanding record of 23–1, capturing an American Division title and the South Jersey Coaches Invitational Tournament crown along the way. In their six playoff games, Lenape amassed 15 goals, by 10 different players, just one of many achievements that have made them the first team from South Jersey to ever win three straight Group 4 crowns.

The coaches who have led the state championship team to victory are Kevin Meder, Tony Guerrero, Mike Foley, and Dave New. These talented young athletes include the following Lenape High School students: Kelsy Evancho, Lizzie Duffey, Katie Rigby, Rachel Johnson, Nicolette Stoner, Becca Meyers, Allison Johnson, Caroline Rigby, Alexis Cooper, Carley Carmody, Marissa Slimm, Chelsea Cannon, Caroline Huelster, Courtney Kovac, Kelly Vanak, Nicole Curry, Carly Walters, Advia Campbell, Jill Hampton, Carolyn Wiley, Maggie Micinski, Jamie Kinkler, Morgan McDivitt, Francesca Roller, Devon Betsch, Tori Prager, Emmy Duffey. I commend the Lenape High School Girls Soccer team on their 2009

State Championship and hope you will join me in wishing each of its members great success.

HONORING ANNA MCKEE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize Anna McKee, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities in journalism by competing in the recent Journalism Education Association (JEA) and National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Convention in Washington, DC.

While competing, Anna and the Liberty High School broadcasting staff were honored as Pacemaker Award finalists for their KLHS broadcast. Anna and the team earned this distinct acknowledgement by conducting one of ten top broadcasts in the nation, a noteworthy achievement.

Anna has been very active with her endeavors in journalism and teamed up with fellow classmate Todd Swetnam to conduct a Public Service Announcement on Liberty's 20/20 program. This announcement earned the duo an honorable mention.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Anna McKee for her accomplishments in the field of journalism and for her efforts put forth in achieving such prestigious awards.

HONORING JOHN M. MELLA ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor John M. Mella on his retirement from the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Michigan after working at the facility for 34 years. His commitment to his work and to the veterans he serves is the definition of what it means to be a dedicated employee as well as a true patriot.

John is a native of the Keweenaw Peninsula in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where he graduated from Calumet High School. His commitment to our Nation's veterans can be traced to his father, Russell Mella, who served with the U.S. Army 91st Infantry Division, 5th Army in North Africa and Italy. John followed in his father's footsteps, attending the Military Police Academy in Fort Gordon, Georgia. He then served in the United States Army Military Police Corps from 1972 to 1975, patrolling the city of Bamberg, Germany and surrounding communities.

In 1975, John was hired as a police officer at the VA Hospital in Iron Mountain. In 1983 he began working at the facility as a motor ve-

hicle operator, transporting veterans to the VA Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Over the years he has gone from driving vans and sedans to motor coaches. For 27 years John's steady hand at the wheel has made sure veterans at the VA Hospital in Iron Mountain arrived at their destination safely, and with honor and dignity.

Both on and off the job, John is an active veteran. He is a member of the Uren-Cooper-Johnson American Legion Post #50 in Iron Mountain and has been a Legionnaire for 30 years. Over the years John has served as Post Commander, 12th District Committeeman, Commander of the Upper Peninsula Association, and Michigan American Legion State Commander. He also has served as membership director for the Michigan District and is currently serving as chairman of the Time and Place Committee for the Upper Peninsula Association.

John has served as chairman for the Dickinson County Office of Veterans Affairs, and is currently serving as finance officer. He is a 21-year member of the Knights of Columbus, a member of Elks Lodge #700 and a Habitat for Humanity volunteer.

In 2006, John co-chaired the Upper Peninsula Veterans Memorial Committee, which raised \$106,000 to build a memorial site in honor of members of the armed services who served our Nation. This tribute placed on Pine Mountain in Iron Mountain is an especially fitting tribute to preserve the memory, dedication and the honor of our Upper Peninsula veterans who proudly served their country.

Madam Speaker, John is a friend, a patriot and has proven himself to be a man of distinction in his years of work at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Hospital. His service to our Nation and his commitment to the men and women who have served in the armed forces are a testament to his generosity and dedication. Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in saluting John M. Mella for his service to our veterans and congratulate him on his retirement.

THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PEACE AGREEMENT

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative FRANK WOLF to recognize an important milestone. January 9, 2010, marks the 5th anniversary of the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that ended a decades-long civil war in Sudan. While this agreement represented a groundbreaking achievement when it was signed, many benchmarks are overdue as we approach two vital deadlines: April 2010 parliamentary and presidential elections (already pushed back from

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